

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

DLOS-04 EB-07 AID-05 IO-10 CU-02 ARAE-00 /084 W

----- 013414

P R 231845Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASUP PORT OF SPAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7951

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

USMISSION USUN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT OF SPAIN 1524

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TD, CU, ECLA

SUBJ: PRIME MINISTER WILLIAMS' OFFICIAL VISIT TO CUBA

REF: POS 1467

1. DURING HIS VISIT TO CUBA LAST WEEK, PRIME MINISTER ERIC WILLIAMS OBTAINED SOME SUPPORT FROM PRIME MINISTER FIDEL CASTRO FOR HIS PROPOSALS FOR A SPECIAL LAW OF THE SEA REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN, ACCORDING TO ACCOUNTS WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN THE LOCAL PRESS. THE CUBAN SUPPORT, HOWEVER, WAS CAREFULLY HEDGED AND STOPPED FAR SHORT OF AN ENDORSEMENT OF DR. WILLIAMS' PROPOSALS. ACCORDING TO THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE END OF THE VISIT, THE TWO PRIME MINISTERS AGREED THAT, ON THE QUESTION OF A SPECIAL REGIME FOR THE CARIBBEAN, "ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE MARINE RESOURCES SHOULD BE EXAMINED."

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2. THE TWO LEADERS ALSO PROPOSED THAT THE CARIBBEAN

COMMITTEE OF ECLA SHOULD HOLD ITS INITIAL MEETING IN HAVANA SEPTEMBER 1-4 TO DISCUSS EDUCATION, PUBLIC HEALTH, AND ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR CONTINUING THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE BETWEEN MEETINGS. AS PROPOSED IN THE COMMUNIQUE, THE MEETING WOULD CONSIST OF TWO DAYS OF MEETINGS AT THE TECHNICAL LEVEL AND TWO DAYS AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL. THE COMMUNIQUE ALSO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR CONSULTATIONS LEADING TO A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC INTEGRATION.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH THE FULL TEXT OF THE COMMUNIQUE HAS NOT YET BEEN PUBLISHED HERE, IT APPEARS THAT NOT ONLY DID DR. WILLIAMS FAIL TO GET CASTRO TO ENDORSE HIS LOS PROPOSALS, BUT ALSO FAILED TO HAVE DISCUSSION OF THE SUBJECT SPECIFICALLY LISTED IN THE PROPOSED AGENDA FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMITTEE OF ECLA. WHILE SOME CAUTION ON THE PART OF THE CUBANS WAS TO BE EXPECTED, GIVEN THE COMPLEXITY OF THE QUESTION AND THE SHORT TIME AVAILABLE TO CONSIDER DR. WILLIAMS' PROPOSALS, THEIR APPARENTLY LUKEWARM RESPONSE TO THE ISSUE WHICH DR. WILLIAMS' HAS MADE THE CHIEF PURPOSE OF HIS PRESENT MULTI-NATION TOUR WAS NOT A PARTICULARLY AUSPICIOUS BEGINNING FOR THE TRIP.

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Message Attributes

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